

**EAST COUNTY CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD  
MINUTES**

**Meeting of May 5, 2010**

Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center  
3300 Briggs Chaney Road  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20904

**Members Present:** Bill Strassberger (Chair); Marva Deskins (Vice Chair); Eric G. Luedtke (Parliamentarian); Anthony Ramirez (Secretary); Vanessa E. Ali; Thomas J. Aylward; Kim Bobola, Ph.D.; Amjad M. Chaudhry, G. Stanley Doore; David M. Kochanski, Esq.; Peter Myo Khin; Allan Mulligan; Alfreda H. Payne, Ph.D.; Odessa Shannon; Saschane M. Stephenson

**Members Absent:** Benoy Thomas

**Staff:** Joy Nurmi (Director); Chuck Crisostomo (Asst. Director) and Anjoo Chohda (SEAA) Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center.

**Guests:** Councilmember George Leventhal (Councilmember at large); Richard R. Bowers (Chief, Fire and Rescue Services); Barbara Foresti (White Oak Master Plan); Maureen Minnick (Resident and Business Owner); Sandra Wright (Burtonsville Union Cemetery); Chris Jones (BMC Property Group); Bob Bartul (Greater Colesville Citizens Association (GCCA); James Stewart (Staff, Marilyn J. Praisner Library); Mark Pharoh (Chair, Eastern County Recreation Advisory Board); Kristin O'Connor (Senior Planner, M-NCPPC); Gerald Roper (The People's Community Baptist Church); Jennifer Wright (Burtonsville PTA); Frank Carouso (GLCA); Dan Wilhlem (Greater Colesville Citizens Association (GCCA) and Montgomery County Civic Federation (MCCF); Bob Sylwester (Resident); Ned Williams (Resident); Claire Iseli (Staff, Councilmember Marc Elrich's office); Jeanette Der Bedrosian (Gazette reporter)

Chair Strassberger welcomed everyone to the board meeting.

**Citizen's Forum:** Asked the guests to introduce themselves and share their concerns with the board. The floor was opened for questions.

**Richard Bowers (Chief, Fire and Rescue Services)** – The County Executive proposes a reduction of services at the Hillandale Volunteer Fire Department (Station # 12) located at 10617 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20903 due to financial crisis. The reduction is temporary in nature. The Burtonsville Fire Station # 15 will deploy and have a strategy to respond to residents needs in Silver Spring (Station # 12).

**Q&A session followed.**

Mark Pharoh – The PHED Committee met today to continue its review of the FYII Operating Budget for the Montgomery County Recreation Department including the Executive-recommended adjustments for the Department, which were transmitted to the Council on April 22.

Sports Academies – PHED Committee will speak with the Education Committee to see if schools can do the education piece of the sports academies, thereby saving funds for Department of Recreation.

Recreation Centers – will be closed on one business day per week.

20<sup>th</sup> Burtonsville Day Celebration - Burtonsville Day is scheduled for September 25, 2010. The Burtonsville Committee Meetings are held 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday each month @ Marilyn J. Praisner Community Center @ 6:30 p.m. Any Volunteers are welcome to attend. For more information can be obtained at [www.burtonsvilleday.org](http://www.burtonsvilleday.org)

Bob Sylwester : Next week (May 13<sup>th</sup>) The Planning Board Meets to discuss the Site Plan Review for EZStorage-Burtonsville <http://www.montgomeryplanningboard.org/agenda/2010/agenda20100513e.html>

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m.

**Chair Strassberger** – announced presentations by Councilmember George Leventhal and Chris Jones.

**Speaker:**

**1. Councilmember George Leventhal, At-Large:**

Thanked board for the invitation and shared an update on the Fiscal Year 2011 Operating Budget. Montgomery County Councilmember George Leventhal (At-Large). As chairman of the Health and Human Services Committee, Councilmember Leventhal supports and oversees programs for Montgomery County's neediest residents: the elderly, the sick, the poor, the homeless, the mentally ill, and abused and abandoned children. He believes passionately in caring for our environment and living sustainably. As a member of the Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy and Environment Committee, he has created and championed many County programs that foster those goals.

Councilmember Leventhal highlighted on County's budget. Currently County is below \$400.00 million in Income Tax. Proposal of reducing County Services by a quarter. Individual Energy Taxes will increase by \$8.00 - \$10.00 per month. Route 29 Corridor study – will be implemented in East County in 2011 (similar to White Flint, Seneca Highway)

**Q&A session followed.**

**2. Chris Jones, Developer, BMC Property Group**

Chris Jones thanked the Board for the invitation. Shared a slide show/presentation updating the board on Burtonsville Town Square (Burtonsville Shopping Center).

Giant is relocating to across the street and is expected to open before Labor Day. The CVS Pharmacy will open before Memorial Day weekend. Chevy Chase Bank is scheduled to open tomorrow. More restaurants, shops coming in building A, B and C. Another banking institution is coming and a little garden. Building A – elevation plan is being worked on. Building C is right of Giant. Montgomery County Department of Liquor will be coming.

Jones also said the center is installing a fully operational traffic signal and crosswalk at the Route 29 entrance that would allow pedestrians to easily cross from the commuter lot behind Burtonsville Crossing Shopping Center to Burtonsville Town Square. The Center is a great project and incorporates features such as :*Water Consumption, Regional Storm water control, habitat protection, water irrigation, natural and non invasive plants, 40%+ water use reduction, local/regional materials, recycling of old materials, construction waste management, low emitting material, non CFC refrigeration, day lighting, extra*

*insulation, white reflective roof, energy management systems, high efficiency HVAC, CO2 monitoring, lighting controls, non-smoking, green park in common areas, etc.*

**Q&A session followed.**

**Chair Strassberger** – Thanked the speakers for their presentations and for their outstanding work in serving the community.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Chair Strassberger asked for a review of the minutes of the ECCAB Meeting of April 7, 2010.

**[May 5<sup>th</sup> 2010-1]** A motion to approve the minutes of April 7<sup>th</sup> 2010. The motion was moved by Eric Luedtke; seconded by Peter Myo Khin and unanimously approved

**Director's Report – Joy Nurmi**

**Announcements:**

- Chuck Crisostomo, the assistant director of the Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center, will be leaving the center in June to work at the county's Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security in Gaithersburg. For the past eight years, Crisostomo has been a knowledgeable advocate and presence at East County meetings, most notably working with local organization LabQuest in bringing the Food and Drug Administration to White Oak. *"There's going to be a lot of people in East County who are going to miss him."* *"They're just so used to having worked with him over the years. He's just been an enthusiastic person that people enjoy working with."* Chuck thanked everyone and shared his wonderful experience of working in east county.
- ECRC Police Substation – the Council's Public Safety Committee put \$3,060 on the reconciliation list for the East County police sub-station.
- Reminded members that any letter sent supporting Washington Adventist Hospital's application to relocate the hospital, cannot be sent as a board member but only as an individual resident.
- Growth Policy – Transportation – asked members to review the Director's Report that was emailed.
- Save the date! May 22<sup>nd</sup> is Colesville Strawberry Festival. Distributed the member sign-up sheet.
- White Oak Ground Breaking Event and FDA tour - thanked members for their participation.
- The IDA sector meeting is scheduled on May 13<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 a.m. at the Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center.

**Chair's Report – Bill Strassberger**

**Announcements:**

- Congratulated Chuck Crisostomo on his new job and extended Best Wishes on behalf of the Board.
- Colesville Strawberry Festival –encourage members to participate.
- Will not be able to attend next month's Board meeting on June 2<sup>nd</sup>; will be attending Paint Branch graduation ceremony.

## **Committee Reports –**

### **Services Committee: Anthony Ramirez, Chair**

The Services Committee received an update on the Youth Advisory Committee that is being proposed and how that will involve the ECCAB and the Services Committee. Members also discussed a variety of topics for holding a summit that revolves around one of the topics covered under the Services Committee (Health, Public Safety, Education).

### **Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee: Tom Aylward, Chair**

The Planning Director Rollin Stanley will conduct a walking tour around the Colesville Shopping Center on Friday, May 7<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 p.m. The Committee discussed the Burtonsville White Oak Police Station.

**Joy Nurmi** – The Burtonsville Neighborhood Plan – a mini study of the Burtonsville area, mainly circulation will go ahead in December.

### **Outreach Committee: Amjad M. Chaudhry, Chair**

A new chair person for the outreach committee will have to be appointed. Montgomery County Asian Heritage fair is scheduled on May 8<sup>th</sup> at EOB, Rockville. May 11<sup>th</sup> is the last meeting of the Colesville Strawberry Festival. The meeting will be held at Bait-ur-Rahman Mosque at 7:30 p.m. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. Members are invited to attend. The 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Muslim Convention will be held on July 16 through July 18, 2010 in VA. Details will be shared.

**Tom Aylward** – Next meeting a decision will be made on the Nominating Committee.

## **Council Reports-**

### **Councilmember Mark Elrich's office:**

Claire Iseli announced:

- Committee sat on the decision of RSC Economic Development; voting was 5 to 1
- Early Childhood Program, at Maydale. Received a grant funding of \$55,000. Thanked Joy Nurmi for her support.
- Burtonsville Day Committee is held third Tuesday each month at 6:30 pm at Marilyn J. Praisner Recreation Center.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business :** None

## **Announcements**

**Alfredda H. Payne** – Thanked the Center for organizing a wonderful trip for the White Oak Groundbreaking Ceremony and FDA tour. It was very informative.

**Kristin O' Connor** – The Planning Board 3<sup>rd</sup> District Police meeting has been moved from May 6<sup>th</sup> to May 27<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m. **The next meeting of ECCAB is scheduled for June 2, 2010.**

APPROVED

## **ATTACHMENT *(emailed members)***

### **Director's Report – May 2010**

#### **ECRSC Police Substation**

The Council's Public Safety Committee put \$3,060 on the reconciliation list for the East County police substation.

**Growth Policy – Transportation** – County Executive Isiah Leggett has sent his proposed Transportation Policy Area Review (TPAR) to County Council. The Board may want a briefing on this.

From the County Executive's press release:

TPAR, which will guide future transportation investment decisions, is a starting point for discussions about the best way to identify future transportation inadequacies and solutions in the development process in each of the County's 21 Policy Areas. Most of those involved in the planning process agree that the current transportation test used to determine the adequacy of transportation facilities is confusing and flawed. The new proposed transportation review will be a significant step forward to address the congestion experienced by County residents.

The proposed TPAR policy:

- Is simple to understand and monitor.
- Classifies each Policy Area as urban, suburban or rural.
- Establishes separate adequacy standards for transit and roadways for each Policy Area in the County. These standards reflect adequate balance between transportation and development for the upcoming 10-year period.
- States that if the forecasted 10-year Policy Area adequacy standards are not met, the County should program the transit services and/or road improvements in the operating or capital improvement projects budgets to meet forecasted development activity and address present and future congestion issues.
- Recommends funding the proposed improvements through a public-private partnership, with different levels of participation, based on public policy considerations of where growth is most desirable.
- Allows balanced growth in all Policy Areas of the County.

The full TPAR proposal is available on the County's website at:

[www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/dot/dir/cefinaltparapril222010.pdf](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/dot/dir/cefinaltparapril222010.pdf)

#### **Groundbreaking for White Oak Recreation Center & FDA Tour on April 24th**

A number of Board members joined the County Executive for the groundbreaking of the White Oak Recreation Center on April Lane.

The FDA tour was a spectacular success thanks to Labquest's Betsy Bretz, who guided us through the campus. Board members visited several buildings and had an opportunity to see where the FDA conducts clinical trials for drugs and medical devices prior to approval.

### **Colesville Strawberry Festival – May 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Come enjoy strawberries, [ice cream](#), craft and plant sales, children's games and rides, entertainment, auctions, and Hillandale rescue vehicles.

The Festival is held at the Old Colesville School and Colesville Recreation area between 10 and 4 P.M. at the corner of Hobbs Drive and New Hampshire Avenue.

### **Third District Police Station**

The mandatory referral at Park & Planning for the Third District Police Station, scheduled for March 4<sup>th</sup>, has been delayed again until Thursday, May 27<sup>th</sup>. Park and Planning staff and the County are still working on the details of an increased buffer on the West side of the property.

### **IDA Sector**

The next IDA Sector meeting is May 13<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. at the East County Regional Center, large conference room.

### **Montgomery County Clean Energy Purchase Catapults it to Fourth Largest Local Government Purchaser Nationwide; Also Ranks 22nd on EPA's National Top 50 List**

Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett announced on April 26<sup>th</sup> that the Montgomery County Clean Energy Buyers Group, consisting of County jurisdictions and agencies, is now one of the largest green power purchasers in the nation after increasing its annual green power purchase to 161 million kilowatt-hours (kWh). The group increased its ranking to number four on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Top 20 Local Government list and Number 22 on their National Top 50 list. Montgomery County recently boosted its purchase of green energy to 30 percent of its electricity use, going well beyond its 2010 goal of 20 percent.

### **Montgomery County to Form Animal Response Team**

Volunteers are needed to become part of the County Animal Response Team (CART) that addresses emergency animal sheltering during an evacuation event. An informational session has been scheduled that will give participants an overview of the purpose, scope and intent of the team and a summary of CART's areas of responsibility. The session will be held Thursday, May 6 at 7 p.m., in the Council Office Building, First Floor Auditorium, 100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville.

Montgomery County's offices of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, along with the Animal Services Division in the Police Department, are working together to plan for the needs of domestic pets in the event of a large-scale emergency situation that includes evacuation of residents to an emergency shelter. Pet owners, like other residents, may be forced to evacuate and should have a plan or sheltering option in place. CART's mission will be to educate the public and have plans in place that address the welfare of animals during an evacuation emergency.

Individuals attending the May 6 informational session can fill out an application to serve as a member of the County Animal Response Team. For more information, or to RSVP for the May 6 meeting, send and email to [sandy.dornsife@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:sandy.dornsife@montgomerycountymd.gov).

### **Addendum to the Director's report items for May 2010 ECCAB meeting**

#### **4/29/2010**

Along with Permitting staff, met with approx. one dozen residents of Valley Brook Drive regarding plans by a church to convert a home in their neighborhood into a church. Permitting services explained that churches are permitted in all zones.

#### **4/28/2010**

Hosted MNCPPC community meeting on revisions to the Highway Master Plan. Approx. 15 persons in attendance, including 2 members of ECCAB-

#### **4/27/2010**

Kushwaha property, (4101 Sandy Spring Road) violation notice issued by DEP. This is the property where the Star Point Plaza project has been proposed, which is immediately adjacent to the EZ Storage property. See *attachment*.

#### **4/24/2010**

FDA Tour with the members of the ECCAB. This was by far one of the most extensive tours of the campus Labquest has conducted. The tour lasted over 2 hours, went thru 4 of the 5 new buildings on campus, drove past the Air Force Wind Tunnel complex and to the rear of the 600 acre property to see the new bridge and exit to Cherry Hill road.

#### **4/22/2010**

FDA/LabQuest's Annual Community meeting. Agenda and flyer attached.

#### **5/10/2010**

10:00 am. Council Office Building, Public Hearing Old Columbia Pike proposed sidewalk project:  
**CIP Project # 506747**